IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please amend the Abstract of the Disclosure as follows.

Pressure-air driven percussion device for a down-the-hole drill ~~(1)~~ with a hammer-piston ~~(86)~~ which is axially reciprocally movable in a hammer-piston chamber ~~(18)~~ through a driving device ~~(9), said~~. The hammer-piston ~~(6)~~ in operation acting with a hammer-end ~~(16)~~ against an upper end ~~(17)~~ of a drill bit ~~(2)~~ which is positioned inside a chuck ~~(3), wherein an~~. An air-cushion for reducing percussive power is arranged to be formed at the hammer-end of the hammer-piston in positions where the drill bit ~~(2)~~ has been moved ~~passed~~ past a predetermined distance in the percussion direction. The drill bit ~~(2)~~ is sealingly slidingly supported in a drill bit bushing ~~(5)~~, and the hammer-end ~~(16)~~ of the hammer-piston ~~(6)~~ is formed so that it sealingly cooperates with the drill bit bushing ~~(5)~~ in ~~said~~ the positions in order to form ~~said~~ the air-cushion ~~(19)~~. ~~The invention also concerns a down-the-hole drill (1).~~